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Agenda items 17 and 18

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-third year

Identical letters dated 11 February 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Even before the ink has dried on the letters I sent to you in recent days regarding Palestinian terrorism, yet another vicious and unimaginable terrorist attack has been carried out against Israeli civilians — and children, in particular.

Late Friday evening, 8 February, during a rocket barrage fired by Palestinian terrorists in the Gaza Strip, two brothers were seriously wounded by a Qassam rocket in their hometown of Sderot. Doctors were forced to amputate part of the left leg of one of the boys, eight-year-old Osher Tuito. His 19-year-old brother, Rami, was also badly injured in the terrorist attack. Osher, who dreamed of becoming a soccer player, does not yet know that he has lost one of his legs. He remains under total sedation so he does not suffer from the severe pain.

The dire consequences of these attacks are further impressed on us when we consider that they took place against the backdrop of the Security Council's deliberations on children and armed conflict, to be held on 12 February. This tragic terrorist attack on the eve of such a debate underscores the gravity of the Council's meeting on such a crucial issue.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 18, and of the Security Council. An identical letter has been sent to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dan **Gillerman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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